

REMARKS

The Office Action of November 21, 2002 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1 - 43 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 1 - 43 are subject to restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121.

The Office Action notes that claims 1 - 29 and 41 - 43 (Group I) are drawn to a coaxial cable connector, classified in class 439, subclass 578 while claims 30 - 40 (Group II) are drawn to a ground shield for a coaxial cable connector in class 439, subclass 607. The Office Action further states that the inventions are distinct because they are related as combination and subcombination. (See Office Action, page 2)

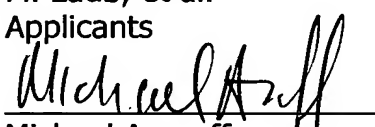
Without agreeing with the examiner's position but solely to expedite prosecution of the application, Applicants elect the claims of Group I for examination. As such, claims 30 through 40 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute these or similar claims in one or more divisional applications.

If the examiner has any questions regarding the presently pending claims which could be easily resolved by a telephone conference, the examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' representative at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Applicants

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